

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 H02M7/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 H02M G01R

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4 562 390 A (TOBISE ET AL) 31 December 1985 (1985-12-31) abstract column 5, line 34 - line 60 -----	1-11
A	US 2002/121902 A1 (SUZUKI KOUHEI) 5 September 2002 (2002-09-05) abstract paragraph '0085! figure 1 -----	1-11
A	US 4 716 487 A (HORVATH ET AL) 29 December 1987 (1987-12-29) abstract column 2, line 39 - line 46 ----- -/--	1-11

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
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- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

\*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

21 March 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

30/03/2005

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 1 143 594 A (CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA) 10 October 2001 (2001-10-10) abstract paragraph '0003! figure 1  -----	1-11

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			JP 4080345 B	18-12-1992
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			AU 3139201 A	04-10-2001
			EP 1143594 A2	10-10-2001
			US 2001048605 A1	06-12-2001